IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 8, 12 and 21. All currently pending claims and status indicators are set forth below. This listing will replace all previous versions of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended)   A computing system, comprising:

an operating system;

main processor to run the operating system;

a system monitor coupled to the main processor; and

a user feedback mechanism comprising an operating system interface coupled to the operating system, a basic input output system (BIOS) interface coupled to a BIOS of the computing system and an advanced configuration and power interface (ACPI) interface coupled to ACPI logic of the computing system, wherein the user feedback mechanism is configured to monitor a plurality of operating conditions of the computing system and to alert a user of the computing system to the plurality of operating conditions, wherein the user feedback mechanism comprises a display panel to display the plurality of operating condition messages independently of the operating system.

2. (Previously Presented)   The computing system of claim 1, the display panel comprising a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel.

3. (Previously Presented)   The computing system of claim 1, the user feedback mechanism further comprising:

a controller coupled to the display panel to monitor a plurality of operating condition signals corresponding to the plurality of operating conditions and to

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communicate the plurality of operating conditions to the display panel

independently of the operating system.

4. (Original) The computing system of claim 3, the user feedback mechanism
further comprising:

a display panel interface driver to pass the plurality of operating conditions to the

controller.

5. (Previously Presented) The computing system of claim 1, the user feedback
mechanism further comprising:

a display panel interface coupled to the display panel for an application to

communicate with the display panel.

6. (Previously Presented) The computing system of claim 1, wherein the display
panel displays a plurality of instructions to the user for the user to cure the plurality of
operating conditions.

7. (Original) The computing system of claim 1, wherein the user feedback
mechanism monitors an operating condition of the plurality of operating conditions after
system initialization by processing data from the operating system into a more meaningful
form.

8. (Currently Amended) The computing system of claim 1, <u>wherein the BIOS</u>
<u>interface is configured</u><s>the user feedback mechanism comprising:</s>

~~system~~ BIOS to monitor the plurality of operating conditions during system

initialization of the computing system by bypassing the operating system.

9. (Original)   The computing system of claim 8, wherein the plurality of operating

conditions comprises a plurality of primary device states for a plurality of primary devices of

the computing system.

10. (Original) The computing system of claim 1, the user feedback mechanism

comprising:

    a safety button configured to signal a power supply to power off the computing

        system if the computing system is not powered off by the operating system.

11. (Original) The computing system of claim 1, the user feedback mechanism

comprising:

    a plurality of fault tolerant client software components to monitor the plurality of

        operating conditions after system initialization of the computing system.

12. (Currently Amended)   A method of providing operating condition user

feedback for a computing system having a system monitor, comprising the steps of:

    monitoring an operating condition of the computing system; and

    displaying an operating condition message corresponding to the operating condition

        on a display panel of a user feedback mechanism of the computing system to

        alert a user to the operating condition independently of an operating system of

        the computing system, wherein the display panel is not part of the system

monitor, and wherein the user feedback mechanism comprises an operating system interface coupled to the operating system, a basic input output system (BIOS) interface coupled to a BIOS of the computing system and an advanced configuration and power interface (ACPI) interface coupled to ACPI logic of the computing system.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:

clearing the operating condition message from the display panel if the operating condition is cured.

14. (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of:

signaling a power supply of the computing system to power off the computer system independently of the operating system.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12, the monitoring step comprising the step of:

monitoring a connection state of the computing system to the Internet.

16. (Original) The method of claim 12, the monitoring step comprising the step of:

monitoring a state of a peripheral device of the computing system.

17. (Original) The method of claim 12, the monitoring step comprising the step of:

monitoring an e-mail notification message to the computing system.

18. (Previously Presented)   The method of claim 12, the monitoring step comprising the step of:

monitoring atomic time from a network server coupled to the computing system.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the monitoring step is performed by an application after system initialization of the computing system.

20. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the monitoring step is performed by system BIOS during system initialization of the computing system.

21. (Currently Amended)   A computing system adapted for operating condition user feedback, comprising:

an operating system;

a system monitor;

means for monitoring a plurality of operating conditions of the computing system; and

means for alerting a user of the computing system to the plurality of operating

conditions independently of the operating system, wherein means for

monitoring and means for alerting do not comprise the system monitor, and

wherein means for monitoring comprises an operating system interface

coupled to the operating system, a basic input output system (BIOS) interface

coupled to a BIOS of the computing system and an advanced configuration

and power interface (ACPI) interface coupled to ACPI logic of the computing

system.

22. (Original) The computing system of claim 21, the means for alerting comprising:

a means for displaying a plurality of operating condition messages corresponding to

the plurality of operating conditions.

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23. (Original) The computing system of claim 22, further comprising:

a means for clearing the plurality of displayed operating condition messages if the

plurality of operating conditions have been cured.

24. (Original) The computing system of claim 21, further comprising:

a power supply; and a means for signaling the power supply to power off the

computing system independently of the operating system.

25. (Original) The computing system of claim 21, wherein the plurality of operating

conditions are readable by an application.

26. (Original) The computing system of claim 21, wherein the means for monitoring

comprises an application after system initialization of the computing system.

27. (Original) The computing system of claim 21, wherein the means for monitoring

comprises system BIOS during system initialization of the computer system.